

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 28, line 22 through page 29, line 27, please delete the paragraph and substitute therefore:

[0066]

Example 21. Asymmetric Hydrogenation Reaction Using a Cross-linked Ir-Pt Cluster Composition

The cross-linked Ir-Pt cluster composition obtained in Example 11 (10.0 mg), methyl benzoyl formate (164.2 mg, 1.0 mmole), (-) cinchonidine (3.8 mg, 0.013 mmole) and toluene (5 ml) were mixed in an autoclave and agitated for five hours at room temperature in a hydrogen atmosphere at a pressure of 50 atmospheres. The cross linked [[Ir]] Ir-Pt cluster composition was removed by filtration after the reaction. The filtrate was concentrated, and the residue was purified using PTLC to obtain (R)-methyl mandelate (125 mg, 75% yield). The asymmetric yield was 52%ee.

[0067]

Example 22. Asymmetric Hydrogenation Reaction Using a Crosslinked Ir-Au Cluster Composition

The cross-linked Ir-Au cluster composition obtained in Example 12 (10.0 mg), methyl benzoyl formate (164.2 mg, 1.0 mmole), (–) cinchonidine (3.8 mg, 0.013 mmole) and toluene (5 ml) were mixed in an autoclave and agitated for five hours at room temperature in a hydrogen atmosphere at a pressure of 50 atmospheres. The cross linked[[Ir]] Ir-Au cluster composition was removed by filtration after the reaction. The filtrate was concentrated, and the residue was purified using PTLC to obtain (R)-methyl mandelate (160.5 mg, 96.5% yield). The asymmetric yield was 52.9%ee.

[0068]

Example 23. Asymmetric Hydrogenation Reaction Using a Cross-linked Ir-Pt Cluster Composition

The cross-linked Ir-Pt cluster composition obtained in Example 13 (20.2 mg), methyl benzoyl formate (164.2 mg, 1.0 mmole), (-) cinchonidine (3.8 mg, 0.013 mmole) and toluene (5 ml) were mixed in an autoclave and agitated for five hours at room temperature in a hydrogen atmosphere at a pressure of 50 atmospheres. The cross linked [[Ir]] Ir-Pt cluster composition was removed by filtration after the reaction. The filtrate was concentrated, and the residue was purified using PTLC to obtain (R)-methyl mandelate (165.6 mg, 99.7% yield). The asymmetric yield was 62.6%ee.

Page 32, lines 3 through 11, please delete the paragraph and substitute therefore:

[0075]

Comparative Example 2. Asymmetric Hydrogenation Reaction Using Iridium Carbon

Five percent Ir/C (38.4 mg, 0.01 mmole), methyl benzoyl formate (164.2 mg, 1.0 mmole), (-) cinchonidine (3.8 mg, 0.013 mmole) and toluene (5 ml) were mixed in an autoclave and were agitated for five hours at room temperature under hydrogen at a pressure of 50 atmospheres. The cross-linked [[Ir]] Ir/C cluster composition was removed by filtration after the reaction. The filtrate was concentrated, and the residue was purified using PTLC to obtain (R)-methyl mandelate (145.4 mg, 87.5% yield). The asymmetric yield was 2.0%ee.